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(54) Camera with combination four-way directional and mode control interface

(57) An electronic camera for capturing, viewing and manipulating electronic image data includes a processor for operating the camera in a plurality of modes, a display device for generating image components including one or more captured images derived from the electronic image data and a set of graphical elements, and a single controller that intuitively allows the user to cycle through the available displayed choices and options

with a minimum of hassle. The controller includes a control element separated into four directional components arranged around a central axis and operative with the display device for navigating among the image components and a mode dial coaxial with the control element for selecting one of the modes.

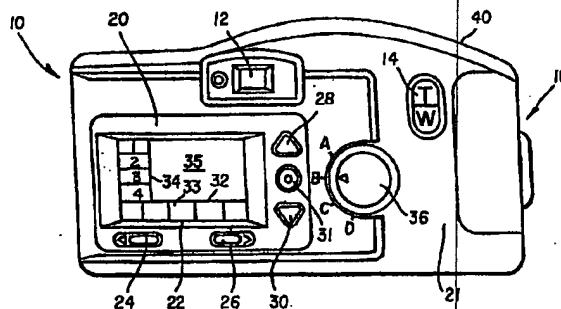


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 20 0766

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl. 6)
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A	US 5 223 888 A (FUKAHORI HIDEHIKO) 29 June 1993 (1993-06-29) * abstract * * column 3, line 35 - line 45 *	1-10	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 1 December 2000	Examiner Hubeau, R
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application I : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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